

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Sanderson et al.

Serial No.: 09/831,411

Filed: May 7, 2001

For: METHOD FOR THE SYNTHESIS OF
ENERGETIC THERMOPLASTIC
ELASTOMERS IN NON-HALOGENATED
SOLVENTS

Confirmation No.: 4272

Examiner: M. Feely

Group Art Unit: 1712

Attorney Docket No.: 2507-5790.1US

Notice of Allowance Mailed:

May 17, 2005

NOTICE OF EXPRESS MAILING

Express Mail Mailing Label Number: EL994845547US

Date of Deposit with USPS: August 11, 2005

Person making Deposit: Steve Wong

TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Mail Stop Issue Fee
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

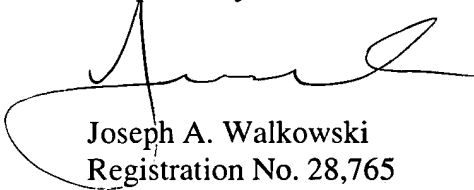
Applicants submit herewith Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal for the above-captioned application and a check in the amount of \$1,430.00 in payment therefor plus ten (10) copies of the patent when issued.

Serial No.: 09/831,411

Also, enclosed is an Amendment Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.312(a) (25 pages); Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance (2 pages); and Fee Addressee for Receipt of PTO Notices Relating to Maintenance Fees (2 pages).

Applicants understand that no additional fees are required. However, if the Office determines that any comparison fees or other additional fees are required, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any such fees to TraskBritt Deposit Account No. 20-1469. A copy of this Transmittal Letter is enclosed for deposit account charging purposes.

Respectfully submitted,



Joseph A. Walkowski
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Attorney for Applicant(s)
TRASKBRITT
P.O. Box 2550
Salt Lake City, Utah 84110-2550
Telephone: 801-532-1922

Date: August 11, 2005
JAW/ps:slm

Enclosures: Part B - Issue Fee Transmittal
Check No. 22023 in the amount of \$1,430.00
Copy of Transmittal Letter
Amendment Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.312(a) (25 pages)
Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance (2 pages)
Fee Addressee for Receipt of PTO Notices Relating to Maintenance Fees (2 pages)

Document in ProLaw



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COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Mail Stop ISSUE FEE
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P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The Examiner indicates:

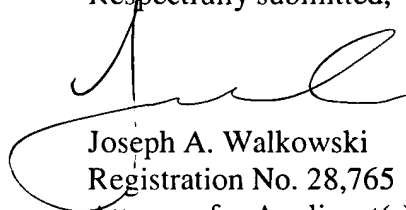
The closest prior art is Wardle (US Pat. No. 4,806,613). They teach the steps of *Dissolving, End-Capping, Linking, and Blending*; however, the reference is deficient in that it does not teach:

- (a) the step of azeotropic distillation, and
- (b) the use of a non-halogenated solvent.

He only describes the use of a *suitable solvent* in the "End-Capping" step, and uses methylene chloride in the working examples. Although a non-halogenated solvent *could have* been used as a *suitable solvent*, the prior art provides no motivation to do so. The prior art fails to establish that non-halogenated solvents are recognized in the art as suitable solvents for each step in this type of reaction process.

Applicants concur with the reasons as stated by the Examiner insofar as they comprise a summary and are exemplary and not limiting. However, as discussed in Applicants' response mailed on December 7, 2004, many of the allowed dependent claims include other and further features and elements. Accordingly, the scope of the claims must be determined from the literal language of each as a whole, as well as equivalents thereof.

Respectfully submitted,



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